

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BEAUMONT DIVISION

CHRISTOPHER FLORES §
VS. § CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:21cv536
DIRECTOR, TDCJ-CID §

ORDER ADOPTING THE MAGISTRATE JUDGE'S
REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Petitioner Christopher Flores, proceeding *pro se*, brought this petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Petitioner challenges a prison disciplinary conviction.

The court referred this matter to the Honorable Christine L. Stetson, United States Magistrate Judge. The magistrate judge has submitted a Report and Recommendation of United States Magistrate Judge. The magistrate judge recommends that the petition be dismissed. The recommendation was based on the conclusion that as petitioner's challenge to his disciplinary conviction would not have a direct effect on the fact or duration of his confinement, his challenge was not cognizable in a federal habeas proceeding.

The court has received and considered the Report and Recommendation of United States Magistrate Judge, along with the record and pleadings. No objections were filed to the Report and Recommendation.

ORDER

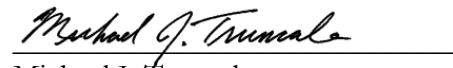
Accordingly, the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the magistrate judge are correct, and the report of the Magistrate Judge [Dkt. 4] is ADOPTED as the opinion of the court. A final judgment shall be entered in accordance with the recommendation of the magistrate judge.

In addition, the court is of the opinion that petitioner is not entitled to a certificate of appealability. An appeal from a judgment denying federal habeas relief may not proceed unless a judge issues a certificate of appealability. *See* U.S.C. § 2253. The standard that must be met in order to receive a certificate of appealability requires the petitioner to make a substantial showing of the denial of a federal constitutional right. *See Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 483-84 (2000);

Elizalde v. Dretke, 362 F.3d 323, 328 (5th Cir. 2004). To make a substantial showing, the petitioner is not required to demonstrate that he would prevail on the merits. Rather, he need only demonstrate that the issues are subject to debate among jurists of reason, that a court could resolve the issues in a different manner, or that the questions presented in the petition are worthy of encouragement to proceed further. *See Slack*, 529 U.S. at 483-84. Any doubt regarding whether to grant a certificate of appealability should be resolved in favor of the petitioner, and the severity of the penalty may be considered in making this determination. *See Miller v. Johnson*, 200 F.3d 274, 280-81 (5th Cir. 2000).

In this case, the petitioner has not shown that the issue of whether his petition is meritorious is subject to debate among jurists of reason. The factual and legal questions raised by petitioner have been consistently resolved adversely to his position and the questions presented are not worthy of encouragement to proceed further. As a result, a certificate of appealability shall not issue.

SIGNED this 7th day of January, 2022.



Michael J. Truncale
United States District Judge